

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/100 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:RTWILLNER:JAK

APPROVED BY EA:LEEDMOND

EA/PHL:BAFLECK

L/EB:PMICKEY

EA/EP:AGEBER

EB/OIA:ECONSTABLE

COMM/OTP/DNO:JJOHNSTON

TREA/OASIA:YHUANG

STR:ELAPP

AGRI:KREYNOLDS

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R 070002Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: U.S.-PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: A. MANILA 16644, B. MANILA 17424, C. MANILA 17785

D. MANILA 28

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1. IN VIEW OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNIQUE, AND PRESIDENT

MARCOS' PRESS CONFERENCE COMMITMENT TO HANDLING ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS AS A PACKAGE, BELIEVE IT IS TIMELY TO RESPOND TO PHILIPPINE NOTE OF NOVEMBER 21 CONTAINED REF A. ALSO AGREE THAT NEXT SIX MONTHS MAY OFFER AS GOOD AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AS WE MAY HAVE FOR SOME TIME, AS REF B SUGGESTS ESPECIALLY AS SIX-MONTH PERIOD COINCIDES WITH EXPECTED PARALLEL PROGRESS IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS.

2. WITH REGARD TO GOP NOTE, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE APPROPRIATE U.S. ECONOMIC POLICY OFFICIALS TO TRAVEL TO MANILA IN EARLY 1976 FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME NECESSARY TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS, AND AS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE REASONABLE IN ANY CASE FOR THE NEXT SESSION TO TAKE PLACE HERE. SECONDLY, THE NOTE'S SILENCE ON THE SCOPE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PASS BY DEFAULT.

3. IF EMBASSY AGREES, WE SUGGEST PRESENTING NOTE TO DFA ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

QUOTE: THE EMBASSY REFERS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S NOTE OF NOVEMBER 21, 1975, PROPOSING RESUMPTION OF ECONOMIC TALKS IN EARLY 1976. IN VIEW OF THE AGREEMENT BY PRESIDENT MARCOS AND PRESIDENT FORD THAT IT IS 'TIMELY TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS ON A NEW AGREEMENT ON TRADE, INVESTMENT AND RELATED MATTERS AS A MEANS TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES', THE EMBASSY WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIFIC PROPOSALS REGARDING THE TIMING FOR SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. WITH REGARD TO LOCATION, A NUMBER OF CONSIDERATIONS INDUCE US TO REQUEST THAT THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT NOT CHANGE THE EARLIER UNDERSTANDING THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON. THE EMBASSY WILL BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA FOR NEGOTIATIONS AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME. END QUOTE.

4. IF EMBASSY HAS SUGGESTIONS FOR ALTERNATE WORDING, PLEASE ADVISE.

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5. NOTE VIRATA'S DOUBTS (REF C) RE FEASIBILITY OF NEGOTIATING DURING U.S. ELECTION YEAR. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEW ON SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS STATEMENT WITH REGARD TO GOP INTENTIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. KISSINGER

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